

JOURNEY TO THE FUTURE WITH AN EXCLUSIVE **FIRST LOOK** AT THE WORLD OF **MEGA MAN X**



MEGA MAN™

Archie
COMICS®

CAPCOM

FLYNN
HESSE
MARTIN
SPAZIANTE

"IT'S FUN, IT'S SMART,
IT'S ACCESSIBLE, AND IT'S
LAYERED" - COMICS ALLIANCE



ISSUE **34**

INTO THE SHADOWS

ARCHIECOMICS.COM

IN THE YEAR 20XX, A SUPER ROBOT NAMED MEGA MAN HAS PLEDGED TO STOP THE EVIL DESIRES OF DR. WILY AND PROTECT THE WORLD. MEGA MAN NOW FIGHTS ALONGSIDE HIS FELLOW ROBOT MASTERS TO DEFEAT THE FORCES OF EVIL!

MEGA MAN™



PREVIOUSLY...

A Hero's Revival

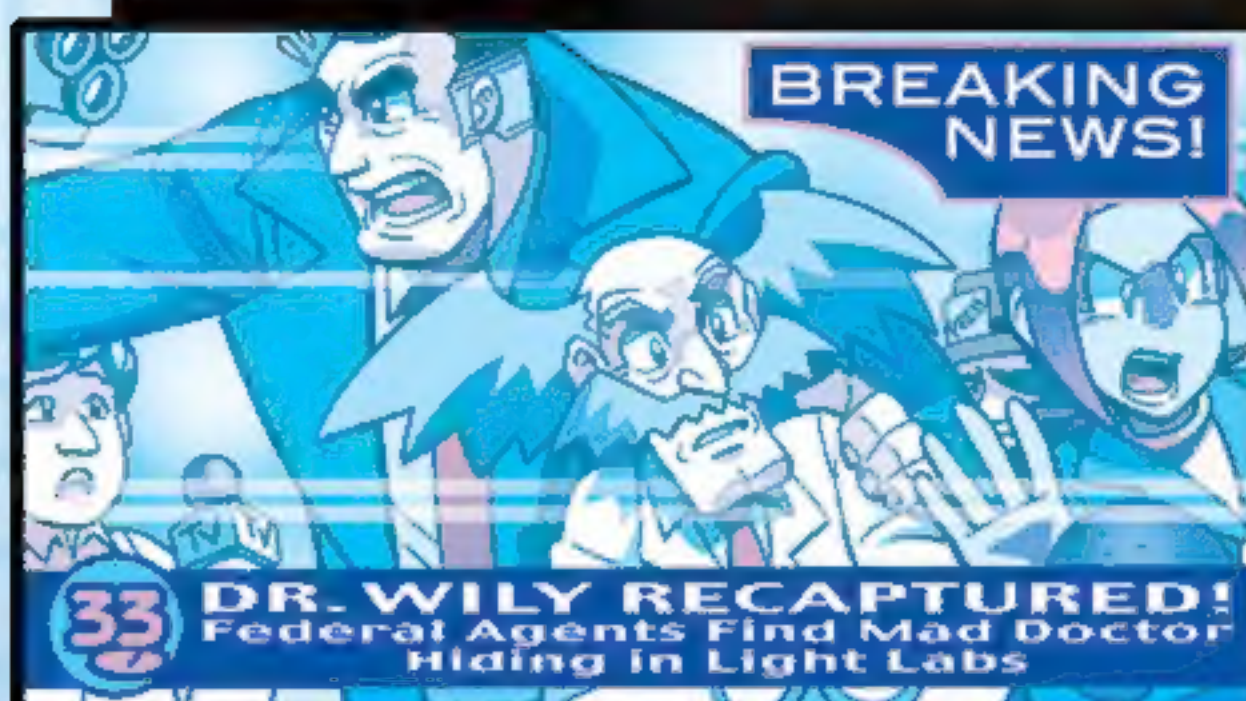
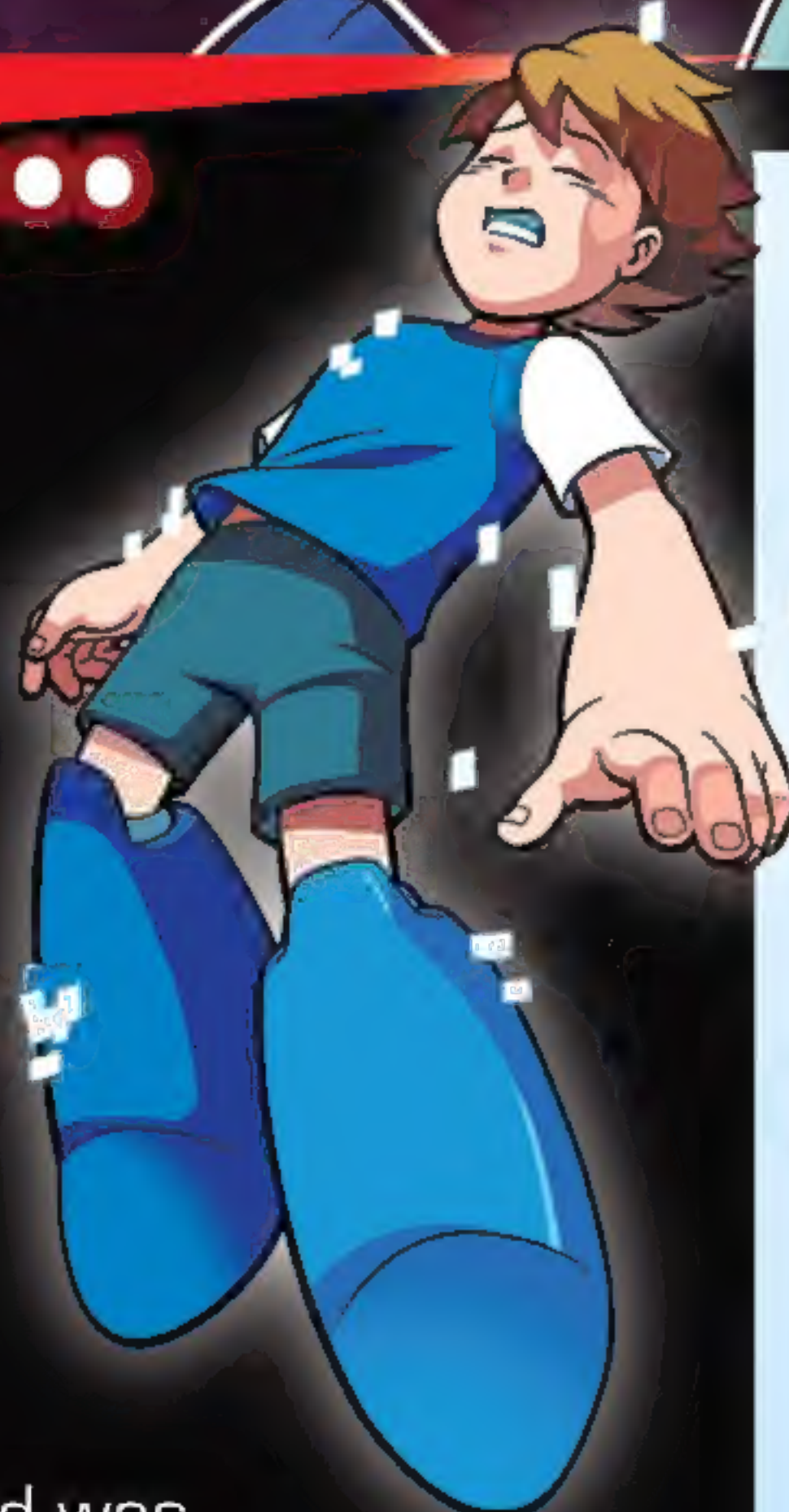
When the sinister alien Ra Moon rose from his hibernation on Earth and enacted a plan to erase all life from the planet, Mega Man leapt into action and confronted the destructive menace. In the end, humanity was saved and Ra Moon destroyed, but the battle nearly killed Mega Man in the process!

Thanks to the robotic know-how of both Drs. Light and Wily, Mega Man was re-built and revived. While Dr. Wily helped save the Blue Bomber, his criminal record

overshadows his good deeds and was taken off to be monitored by the police.

Mega Man, who stands for what is right in all aspects, wishes to clear Dr. Wily's name of the Blackout catastrophe. Rock now leads a research team back to the Landfront Ruins seeking the truth

behind Dr. Wily and his connections with Ra Moon. **Mega Man barely made it out of the ruins on his last adventure, and although Ra Moon is destroyed, the evil computer's ambitions are still being executed...**



CHARACTER SELECT



MEGA MAN
HERO OF LIGHT LABS



PHARAOH MAN
EXCAVATION EXPERT



BREAK MAN
ESTRANGED BROTHER OF MEGA MAN



SHADOW MAN
EVIL ROGUE ROBOT MASTER

SHADOW OF RA MOON part 1

IAN FLYNN
SCRIPT

TYSON HESSE
PENCILS

GARY MARTIN
INKS

JOHN WORKMAN
LETTERS

MATT HERMS
COLORS

PATRICK SPAZIANTE
COVER

X - FACTOR part 1

IAN FLYNN
SCRIPT

PATRICK SPAZIANTE
LINE ART

JOHN WORKMAN
LETTERS

MATT HERMS
COLORS

BEN BATES
VARIANT COVER

VINCENT LOVALLO
ASSISTANT EDITOR

PAUL KAMINSKI
EDITOR/EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF EDITORIAL

VICTOR GORELICK
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

MIKE PELLERITO
PRESIDENT

JON GOLDWATER
PUBLISHER

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BRIAN OLIVEIRA
AT CAPCOM MEDIA AND CONSUMER
PRODUCTS AND TO 飛田 栄実

SHADOW OF RA MOON PART ONE: WAYWARD SON

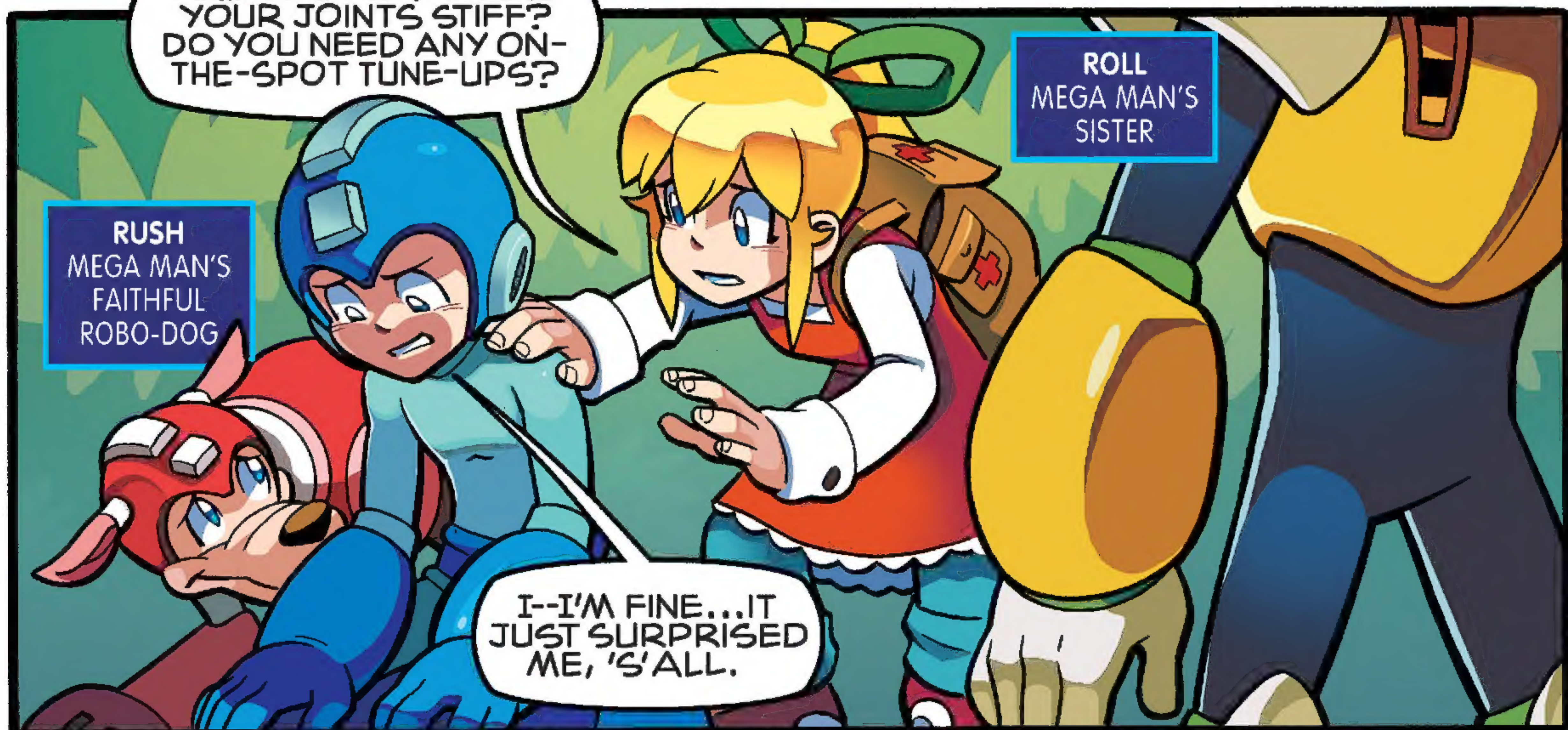
AMAZON JUNGLE,
SOUTH AMERICA.

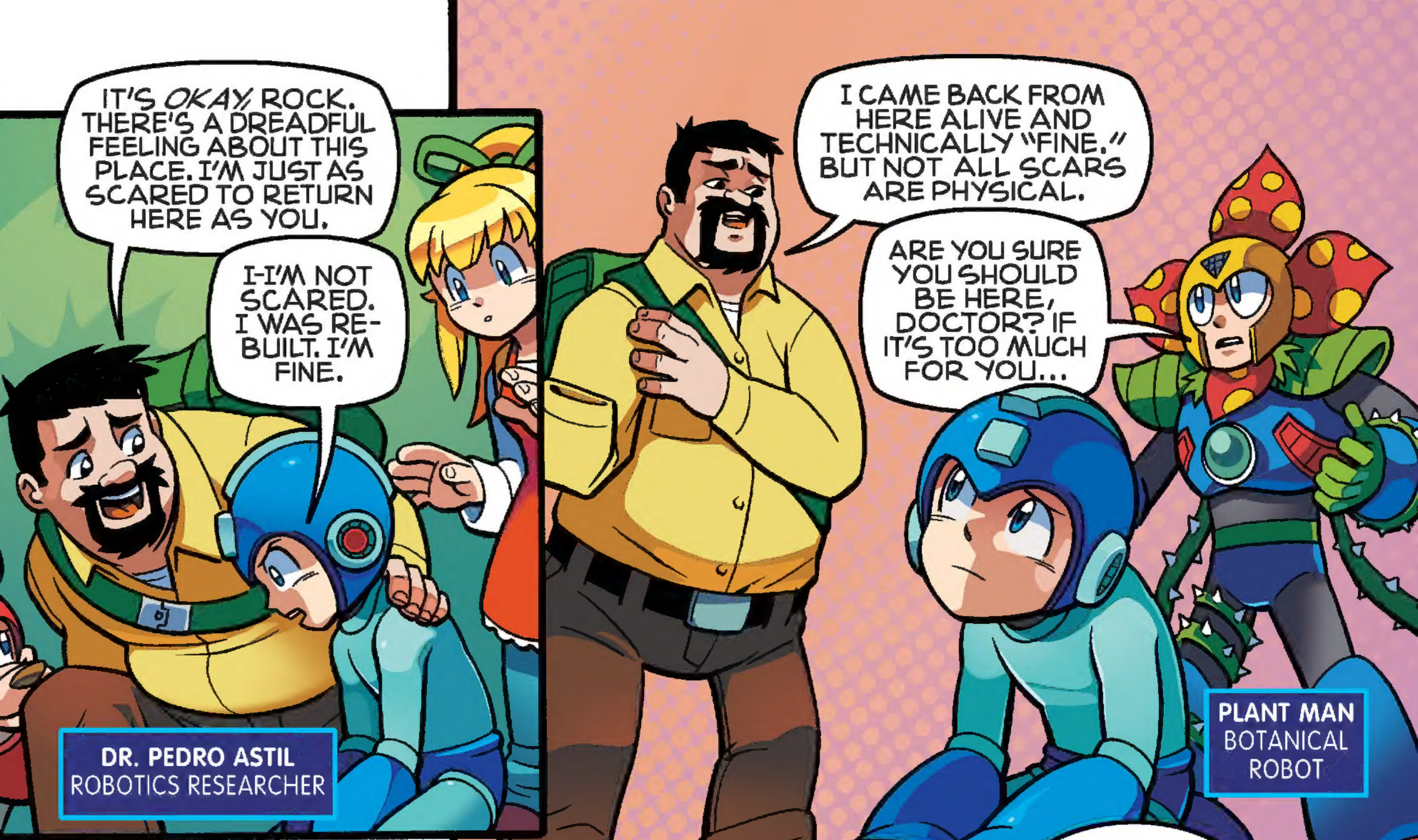
OUTSKIRTS OF THE
DREADED LANFRONT
RUINS.

WHOA!

MEGA MAN
HERO OF
LIGHT LABS

WHUMPI!





IT'S OKAY, ROCK. THERE'S A DREADFUL FEELING ABOUT THIS PLACE. I'M JUST AS SCARED TO RETURN HERE AS YOU.

I-I'M NOT SCARED. I WAS RE-BUILT. I'M FINE.

I CAME BACK FROM HERE ALIVE AND TECHNICALLY "FINE," BUT NOT ALL SCARS ARE PHYSICAL.

ARE YOU SURE YOU SHOULD BE HERE, DOCTOR? IF IT'S TOO MUCH FOR YOU...

DR. PEDRO ASTIL
ROBOTICS RESEARCHER

PLANT MAN
BOTANICAL ROBOT



I'LL BE FINE. I NEED TO FIND OUT WHAT HAPPENED HERE. *I NEED CLOSURE.

IT WILL ALSO BE NICE TO LAY DR. WILY'S LUDICROUS CLAIMS TO REST ONCE AND FOR ALL. **

YOU DON'T BELIEVE HE'S ANOTHER OF RA MOON'S VICTIMS?

I'VE NEVER TRUSTED ALBERT, I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY YOU'RE GOING OUT OF YOUR WAY TO HELP HIM.

THERE'S GOOD IN ALL OF US, MIKHAIL, AND WE ALL MAKE MISTAKES.

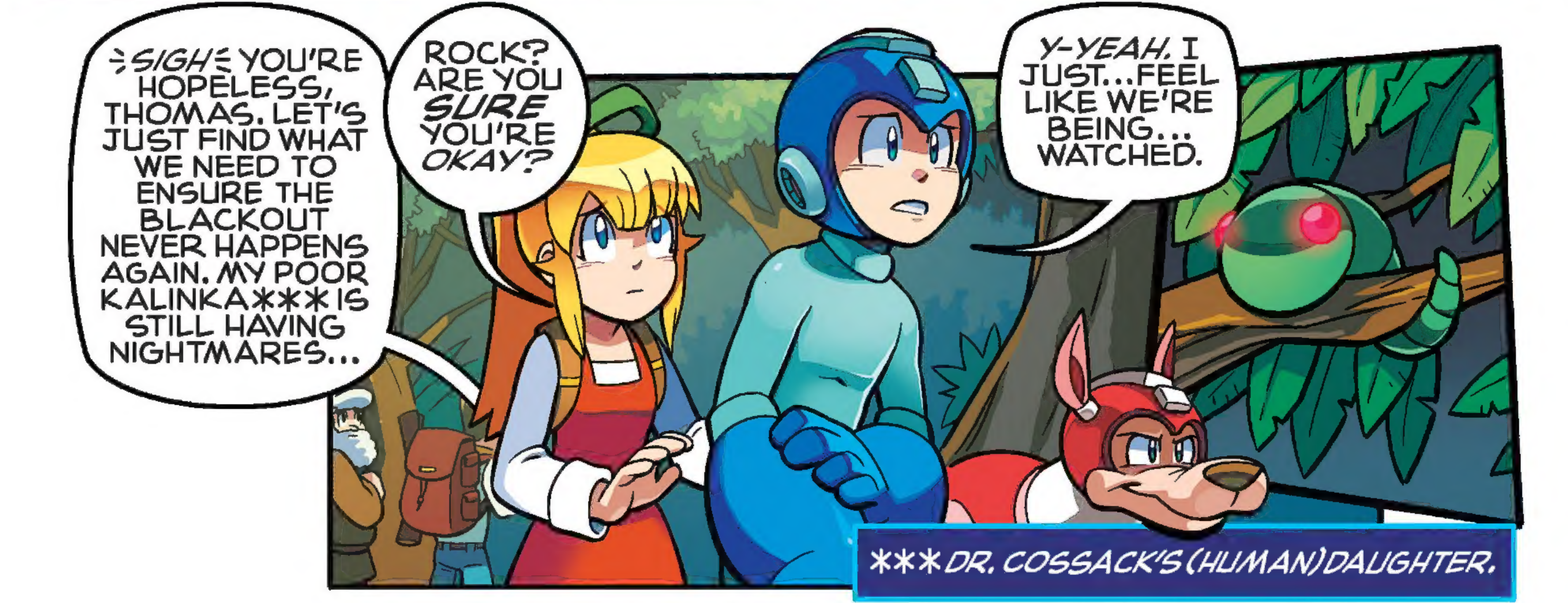
DR. MIKHAIL COSSACK
ADVANCED ROBOTICS INVENTOR

DR. THOMAS LIGHT
GENIUS ROBOTIC RESEARCHER

*MM#29, **MM#33.



EVERYONE DESERVES A SECOND CHANCE. AND SOMETIMES THEY NEED A THIRD.



⇒SIGH⇒ YOU'RE HOPELESS, THOMAS. LET'S JUST FIND WHAT WE NEED TO ENSURE THE BLACKOUT NEVER HAPPENS AGAIN. MY POOR KALINKA*** IS STILL HAVING NIGHTMARES...

ROCK? ARE YOU SURE YOU'RE OKAY?

Y-YEAH, I JUST...FEEL LIKE WE'RE BEING... WATCHED.

***DR. COSSACK'S (HUMAN) DAUGHTER.

ELSEWHERE IN THE JUNGLE...

BREAK MAN AND DR. WILY'S ROBOT MASTERS CONTINUE ON THEIR SECRET MISSION...

MEGA MAN IS HERE. HE HAS ROLL AND THE DOG WITH HIM. DOCTOR LIGHT IS PRESENT, ALONG WITH TWO MORE BEARDED MEN AND TWO MORE ROBOT MASTERS.

ROLL IS...! ~~AHEM~~ I'D ASSUME THE MEN ARE DRS. COSSACK AND ASTIL.

THEREFORE, PHARAOH MAN AND PLANT MAN ARE THE ROBOTS.

THERE, THAT SHOULD TOP YOU OFF.

BREAK MAN MEGA MAN'S ESTRANGED BROTHER

MAGNET MAN REMOTE DETONATIONS ROBOT

MUCH OBLIGED.

SPARK MAN WALKING DYNAMO

GEMINI MAN EXPERIMENTAL DUPLICATING ROBOT

HARD MAN LAND LEVELING ROBOT

TOP MAN SCOUTING ROBOT

NEEDLE MAN MINING ROBOT

SNAKE MAN (CREEPY) SURVEYING ROBOT

HEH HEH ...SNOOPING THROUGH DR. WILY'S FILES?

...RESEARCHING.

ANY SIGN OF OUR TARGET?

HE REMAINS ...ELUSIVE.

MEGA MAN AND THE OTHERS ARE *NOT* OUR TARGETS, DO *NOT* ENGAGE THEM. THAT SAID, THEY MIGHT *FINALLY* FLUSH OUT OUR OBJECTIVE FOR US.

KEEP A WATCH ON THEM, SNAKE MAN. LET'S RESUME THE SEARCH. STICK CLOSE. WATCH EACH OTHER'S BACKS...

"...SHADOW MAN IS AS DANGEROUS AS THEY COME."

SOON, OUTSIDE THE TEMPLE OF THE MOON...



YOU DON'T NEED TO BE HERE, SON. PHARAOH MAN, PLANT MAN, AND RUSH WILL KEEP US SAFE. I'M SURE AUTO COULD USE A HAND IN THE LAB...

N--NO...



DOCTOR WILY SAVED MY LIFE. * I PROMISED HIM I WOULD TRY TO PROVE HIS INNOCENCE. I WON'T... I WON'T BREAK MY PROMISE...

I UNDERSTAND. I WISH MORE PEOPLE HAD YOUR INTEGRITY.

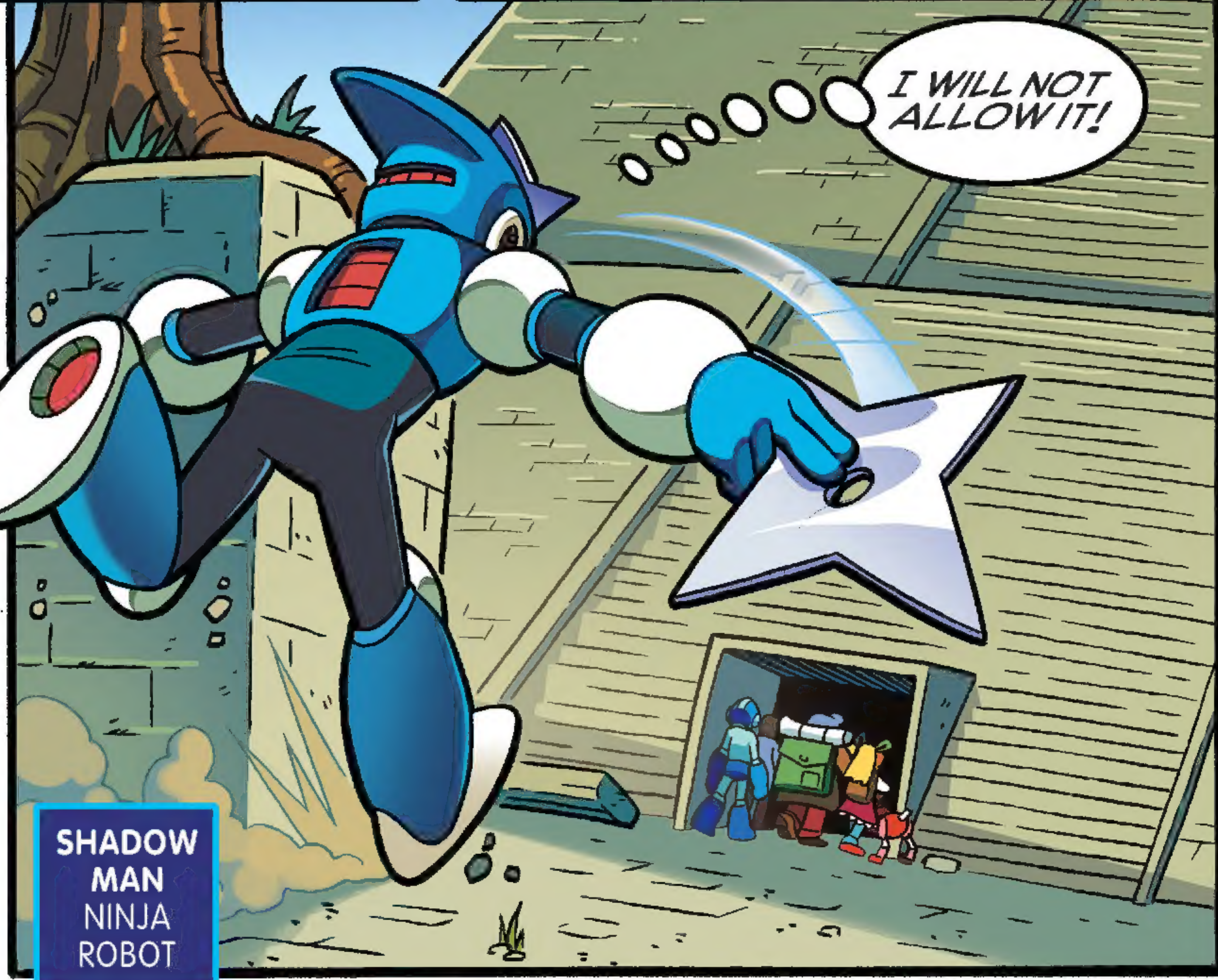
*MM#33.



ALL RIGHT, PHARAOH MAN. LEAD THE WAY.

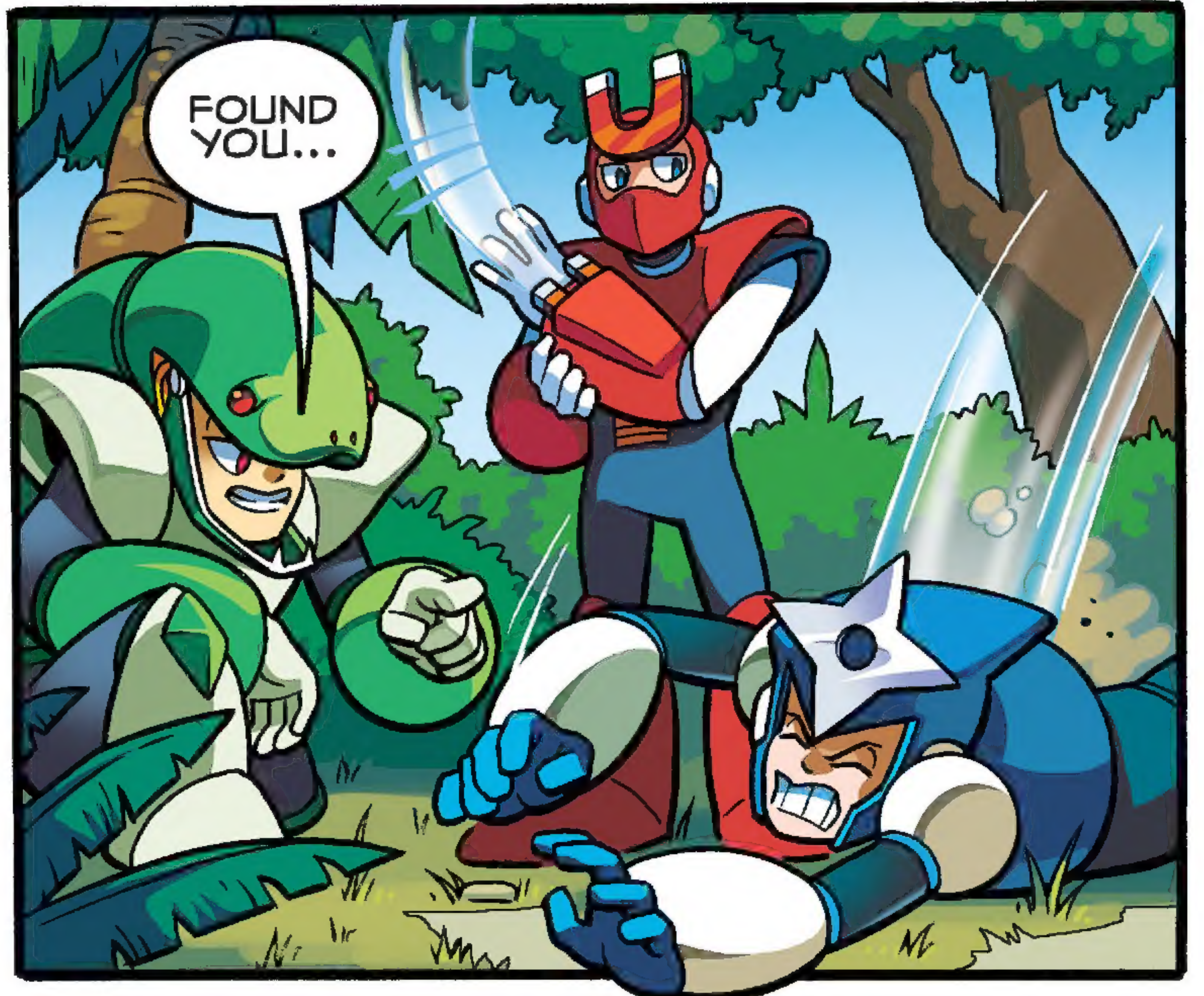
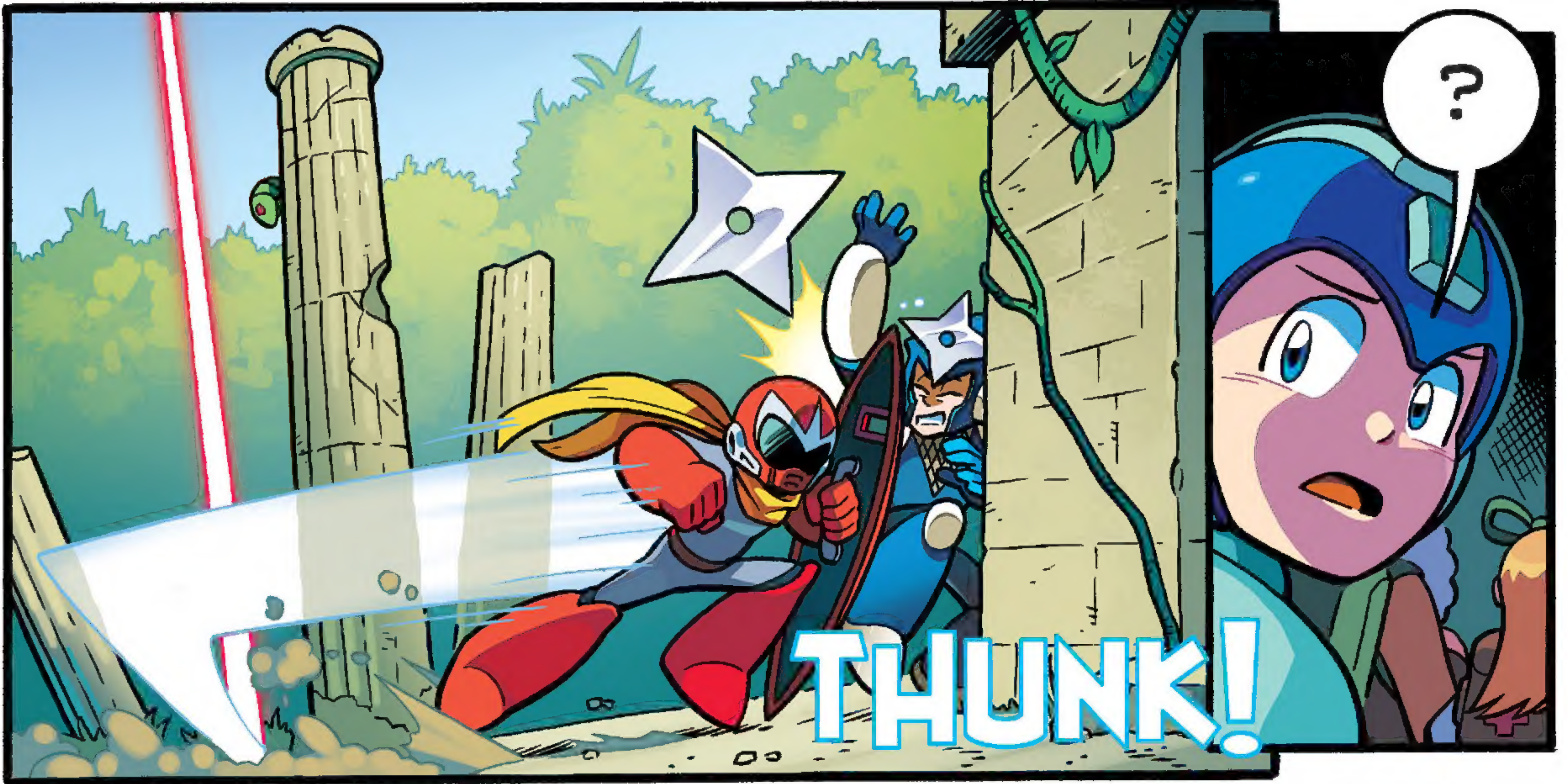
DIS-GRACEFUL FILTH!

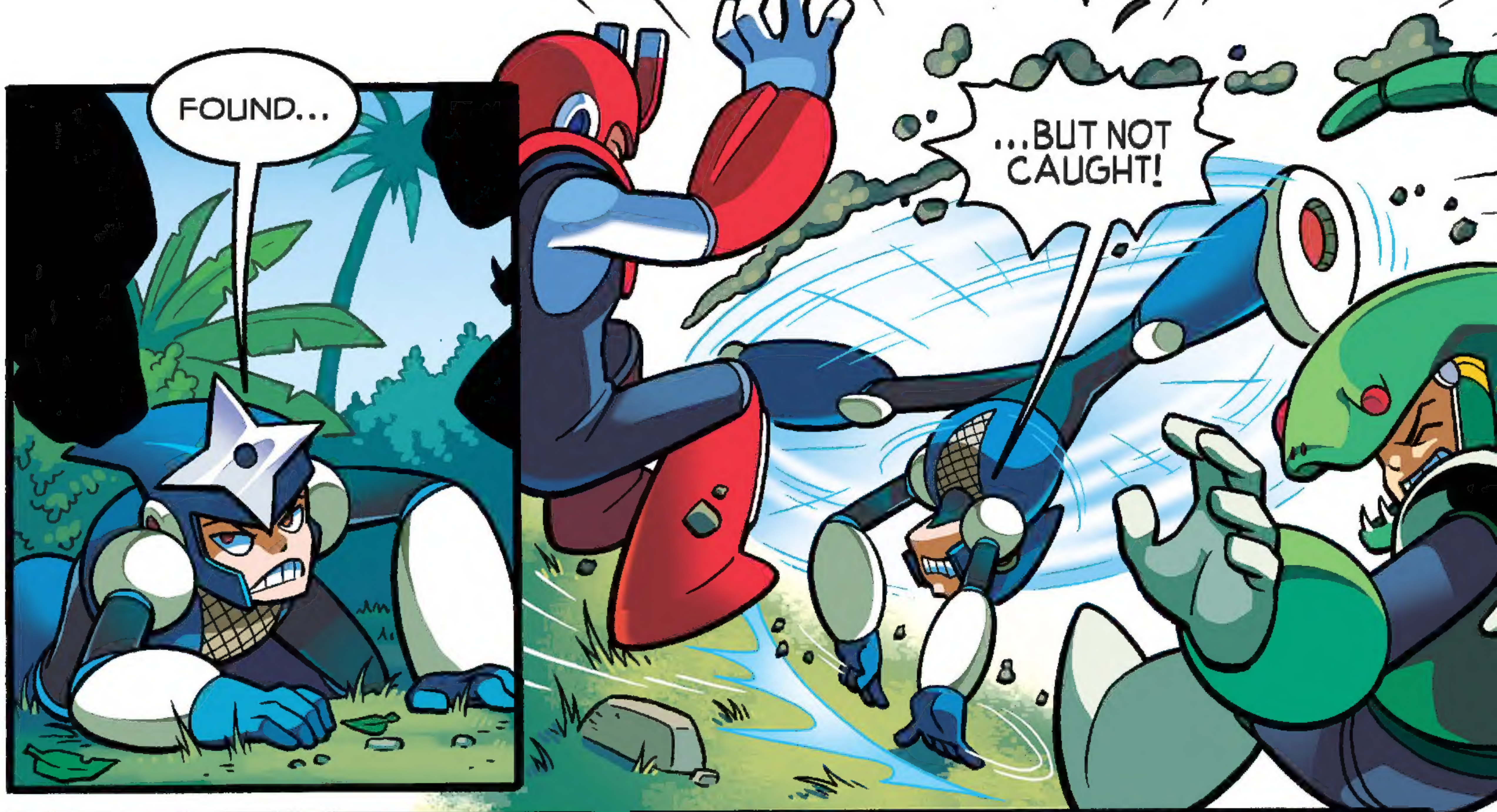
FIRST THEY KILL MY MASTER, THEN THEY DARE DESECRATE HIS GRAVE?



I WILL NOT ALLOW IT!

SHADOW MAN NINJA ROBOT





FOUND...

...BUT NOT CAUGHT!



HE'S HEADING NORTH-WEST! TRACK HIM!

I'M NOT SPENDING ANOTHER WEEK HUNTING HIM!

LIRGH... SEARCH SNAKES CONVERGING...



I'VE CUT HIM OFF! HARD MAN--NOW!

FWASH!





SHING!

VZZT!



THUNK!



...THAT WORKED!
HA HA HA!
I GOT HIM!

RRRGH...

WHUDI!

DISGRACEFUL
...DEFEATED BY
THESE UNWORTHY
RONIN...

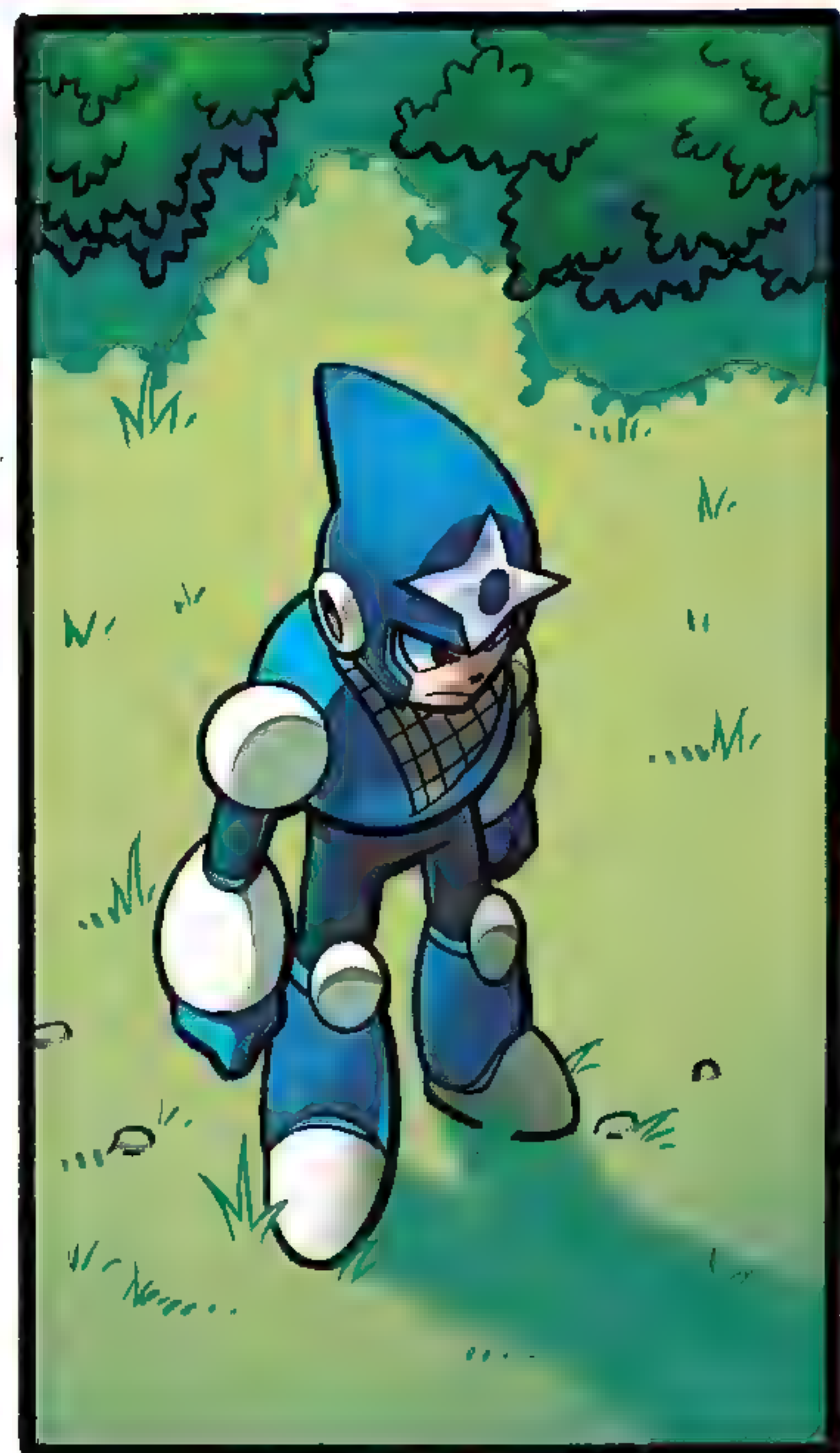
FINISH IT!

I HAVE FAILED RA
MOON! I
HAVE NO
PURPOSE!

END MY
SHAME!



* MEGA MAN VOL. 4 GRAPHIC NOVEL





TO SERVE
A NEW MASTER
...TO HAVE A
PURPOSE
AGAIN...

YES, I
WILL BE ONE
OF YOUR...

...AND
NOT BE
ALONE...

...**BROTHERS.**

HA!
THERE WE GO!
I'M BUILT TO BE
HARD-HEADED,
BUT *THIS* GUY
...!



GOOD TO
HAVE YOU WITH
US. YOU WON'T
REGRET IT.

I...
BELIEVE
YOU. THANK
YOU....

WE WERE
PRETTY
ROUGH WITH
YOU. NEED A
RECHARGE?



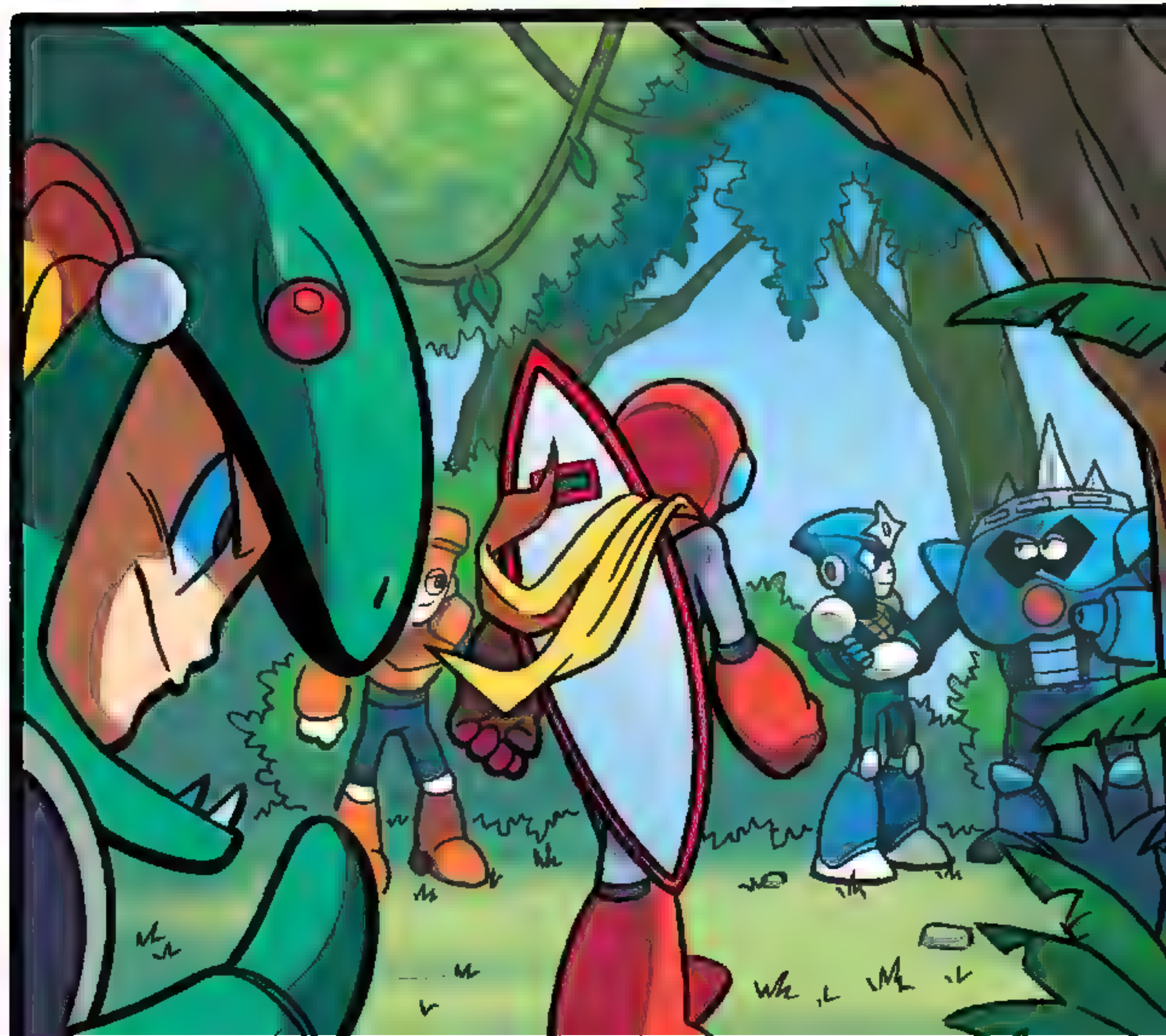
N-NO...
THANK
YOU.

GIVE HIM SOME
SPACE, SPARK
MAN! YOU'RE
GOING TO
SKEWER HIM!

YOU'RE
ONE TO TALK,
NEEDLE
MAN!



HEH HEHEE...
DO YOU THINK MEGA
MAN AND ROLL
WOULD BE AS FOR-
GIVING TO YOU?





SHADOW MAN'S BEEN "RECOVERED," SO ... MISSION ACCOMPLISHED.

YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO RENDEZVOUS WITH THE OTHERS AT THE BUILDING SITE.

BWOO-WIP!

BWOO-WIP!
BWOO-WIP!
BWOO-WIP!
BWOO-WIP!

HE'S RIGHT--THAT CASTLE ISN'T GOING TO BUILD ITSELF. THE DOCTOR WILL HAVE FURTHER ORDERS FOR US THERE.

HERE'RE THE TELEPORTER COORDINATES.

I SEE. BUT THE NEW MASTER... HE'S CAPTURED... CORRECT? HOW WILL HE SEND US INSTRUCTIONS?

HE'S A GENIUS, MAN. HE'S DONE THIS SORT OF THING BEFORE.*

* MEGA MAN GRAPHIC NOVEL VOLUME 2.

BWOO-WIP!
BWOO-WIP!



BREAK MAN? ARE YOU COMING?

...LATER. I NEED TO FIND SOME ANSWERS.

ABOUT WHAT?

...PERSONAL THINGS. COMPLEX THINGS.



(SHOULD'VE CALLED YOU MELODRAMA MAN.) SUIT YOURSELF.

BWOO-WIP!



BWOO-WIP!

BWOO-WIP!

MEANWHILE,
DEEP IN THE
TEMPLE OF
THE MOON...

...AND THERE'S
ANOTHER TRAP
HERE, HONESTLY--
HOW DID MEGA MAN
MAKE IT THROUGH
HERE IN ONE PIECE?

~~SIGH~~
INELEGANT,
BUT
EFFICIENT...

WELL, HE *DID* HAVE
TWELVE OTHER ROBOT
MASTERS BLASTING,
MELTING, AND BLOW-
ING UP EVERYTHING IN
FRONT OF THEM.

WAIT... D-DOES
THAT MEAN THIS
TUNNEL ISN'T
STABLE?

FOR THE *LAST TIME*,
WE'LL BE *FINE*.

HOW ARE YOU
HOLDING UP,
PEDRO?

HONESTLY? MY HEART'S
IN MY THROAT AND PUMP-
ING ICE THROUGH MY VEINS.
BUT I *OWE* THIS TO THE
REST OF MY TEAM.

HOLD MY HAND,
DR. ASTIL, I'M
RIGHT HERE.
IT'LL BE *OKAY*.

...THANK
YOU, ROLL.

STILL
WITH
US?

Y-YEAH, I
JUST... FEEL
LIKE I'M BEING
WATCHED.

THIS TUNNEL
WOULD'VE BEEN
EASIER TO
TRAVEL IF WE'D
HAD QUAKE
WOMAN HERE.
THERE NEED TO
BE MORE
DRILLING ROBOT
MASTERS.

OH, YES. I
COMPLETELY
AGREE. ONCE I GET
HOME, I PLAN TO
START ON--

CAREFUL,
EVERYONE!




THE TUNNEL ENDS
HERE. THAT MEANS
RA MOON--



REMAINS!
THE **REMAINS** OF
RA MOON!



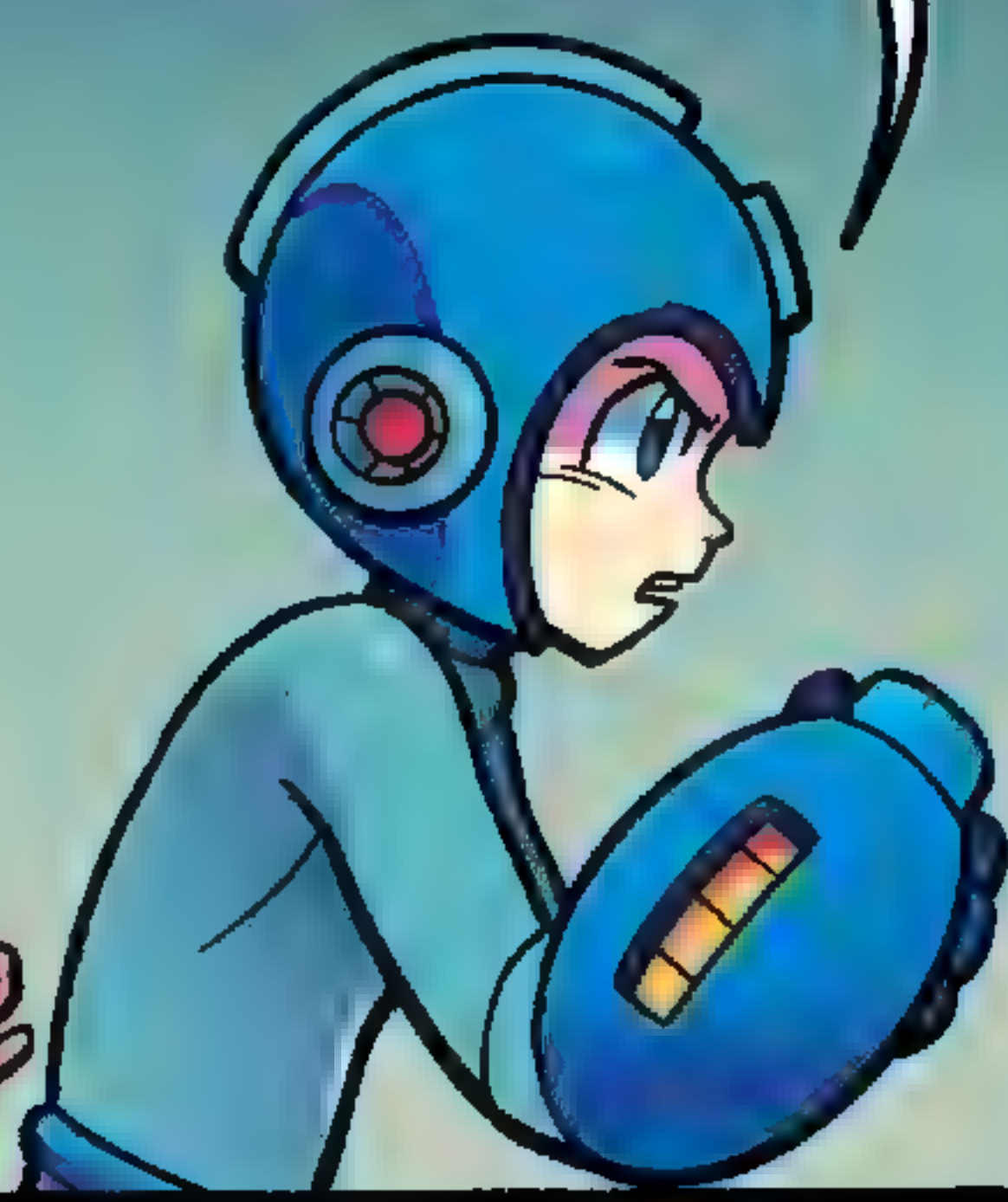
SIGH THE MOST-
LIKELY-JUST-REMAINS
OF RA MOON ARE
RIGHT THROUGH HERE.



ALL RIGHT, SON, THIS IS IT.
REMEMBER: YOU AND THE
OTHERS HAVE THE EMP-
RESISTANT COATING ON, WE'RE
ALL HERE WITH YOU. EVERY-
THING WILL BE... *OKAY*.



IT'S
SO DARK...
M-MEGA
MAN
...?



I-IT'S GOING TO BE
FINE, ROLL. I WON'T
LET RA MOON HURT
YOU OR ANYONE
ELSE EVER AGAIN.



BACK ME UP,
GUYS. HERE
WE GO...



GEOWORKS
INTERNATIONAL
HQ--HOME TO
DR. LALINDE.

YOU CAN BRING
IN THE REST OF
THE SAMPLES IN THE
MORNING. LET'S
CALL IT A NIGHT.

ALL RIGHT.
I WILL BE
IN SHORTLY,
DOC...MOM.

QUAKE
WOMAN
A.K.A.
TEMPO

"MOM?"

TELL ME...
WHAT IT
MEANS TO
CALL SOME-
ONE
"FAMILY."

WHAT
DOES BREAK
MAN WANT
WITH
TEMPO?

WHAT
DANGERS
AWAIT
MEGA MAN
IN THE DARK,
CURSED
TEMPLE?

WHAT
IS
DR. WILY
PLOTTING
THIS
TIME?

ALL THIS
AND MORE
NEXT TIME,
MEGA-
FANS!

CAN YOU WAIT
UNTIL NEXT MONTH?!

100 YEARS IN
THE FUTURE

From the Journal
of Doctor Cain,
Archeologist...

April 8th, 21XX
Still nothing. I've been sifting through the dirt
since March, trying to find a fossil record which
would verify my findings.

So far I've come up empty. Tomorrow I'll move
my dig to a new site. Maybe I'll have better luck.

April 9th.
Set up camp at the new site and laid out a preliminary gridwork
for the dig. I got some odd readings at location E-46. It looks
like something metallic is buried several meters below the
surface. I think I'll begin there tomorrow.

April 10th.
I can't believe what I've found! Several meters below the surface
were the remains of a lab. Although most of it was damaged, I
did manage to find papers that indicate that it belonged to the
famous robot designer DR. THOMAS LIGHT. I've begun to
review what is left of Dr. Light's notes, and it looks like he was
onto a major breakthrough. The notes keep referring to "THE
CAPSULE"...

THE

FACTOR

PART 1

WRITER: IAN FLYNN
LINE ART: PATRICK SPAZIANTE
COLOR ART: MATT HERMS
LETTERS: JOHN WORKMAN

April 13th.
I found it!

"X" IS THE FIRST OF A NEW GENERATION OF ROBOTS WHICH CONTAIN AN INNOVATIVE NEW FEATURE--THE ABILITY TO THINK, FEEL, AND MAKE HIS OWN DECISIONS. HOWEVER, THIS ABILITY COULD BE VERY DANGEROUS. IF "X" WERE TO BREAK THE FIRST RULE OF ROBOTICS--"A ROBOT MUST NEVER HARM A HUMAN BEING"--THE RESULTS WILL BE DISASTROUS, AND I FEAR THAT NO FORCE ON EARTH COULD STOP HIM.

APPROXIMATELY 30 YEARS WILL BE REQUIRED BEFORE WE CAN SAFELY CONFIRM HIS RELIABILITY. UNFORTUNATELY, I WILL NOT LIVE TO SEE THAT DAY, NOR DO I HAVE ANYONE TO CARRY ON MY WORK. THEREFORE, I HAVE DECIDED TO SEAL HIM IN HIS CAPSULE, WHICH WILL TEST HIS INTERNAL SYSTEMS UNTIL HIS RELIABILITY HAS BEEN CONFIRMED. PLEASE DO NOT DISTURB THE CAPSULE UNTIL THAT TIME.

The capsule was hidden underneath a collapsed ceiling. Even underneath all the rubble, it has remained intact and was still running some sort of diagnostic test when I found it. There was a warning...

"X" POSSESSES GREAT RISKS AS WELL AS GREAT POSSIBILITIES. I CAN ONLY HOPE FOR THE BEST. THIS IS THOMAS LIGHT, SEPTEMBER 18TH, 20XX.

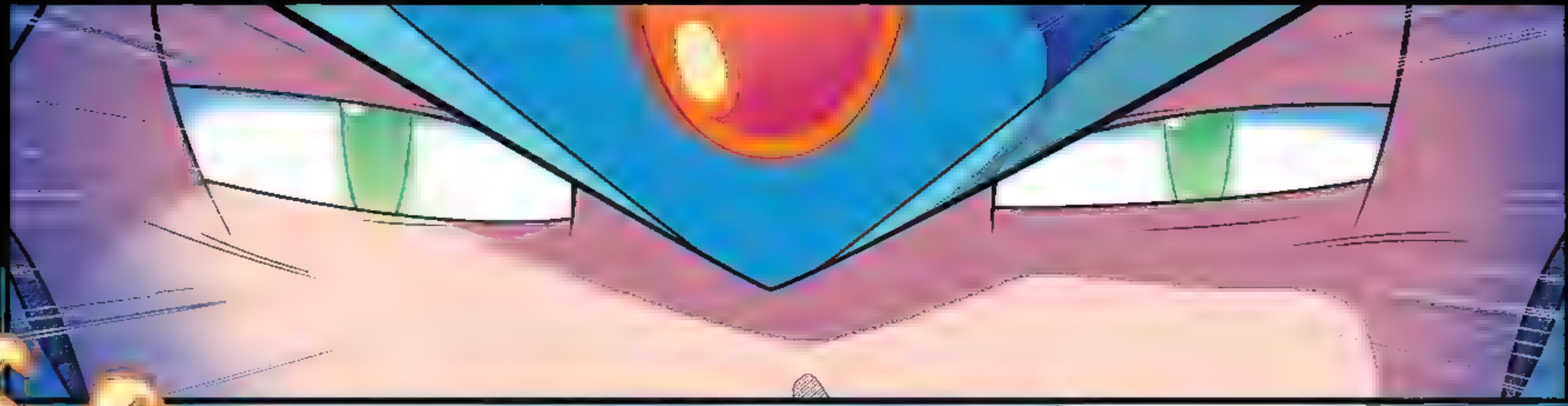
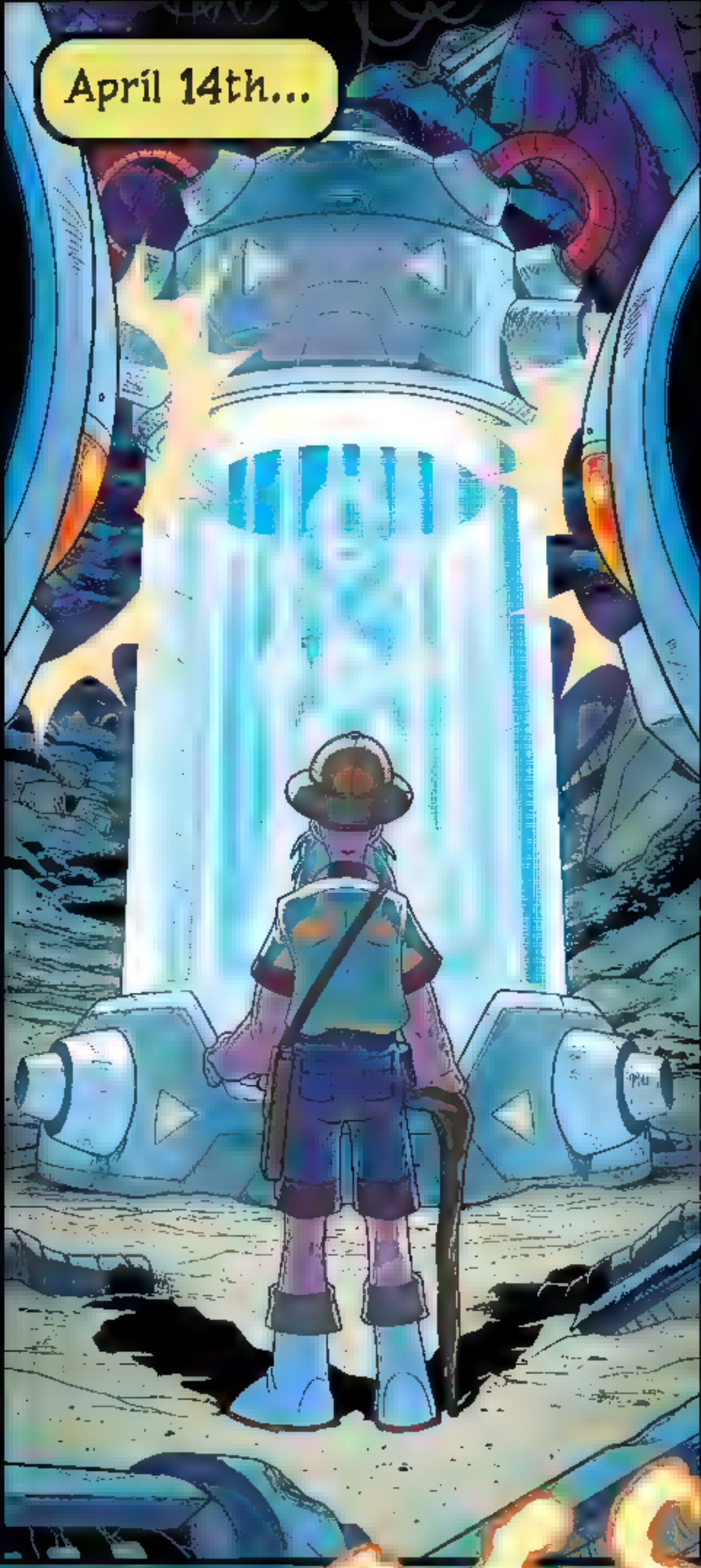
"THIRTY YEARS?" IT'S BEEN CONSIDERABLY LONGER THAN THAT, DOCTOR. DOES THAT MEAN IT'S SAFE TO OPEN IT, OR...?

...all the indicators on the capsule show green. It SHOULD be safe to open it.

Do I dare? Will this "X" even function after all this time?

CAN I REALLY LET THIS ... "LIVING" LEGACY STAY SEALED AWAY...?

April 14th...



...today I met "X." Not simply a robot, X is something totally different.

...HELLO?

WHO...ARE...YOU?

At times, X seems more like a man than a machine.



April 15th.
Light was a genius! I've been going over his design notes, and they are a quantum leap beyond anything the world has ever seen.



Using them as a guide, I may be able to replicate his designs and integrate them into a new generation of robots. Doctor Light wanted to share these remarkable machines with the world, and I intend to see his dream fulfilled! I'll begin transporting X and the rest of Dr. Light's things back to my lab tomorrow.

November 22nd.
With X's help, I have completed the first "Reploid."

Although I don't completely understand how all of Dr. Light's systems work, I was able to make some minor modifications, and the reploid seems to be functioning perfectly.

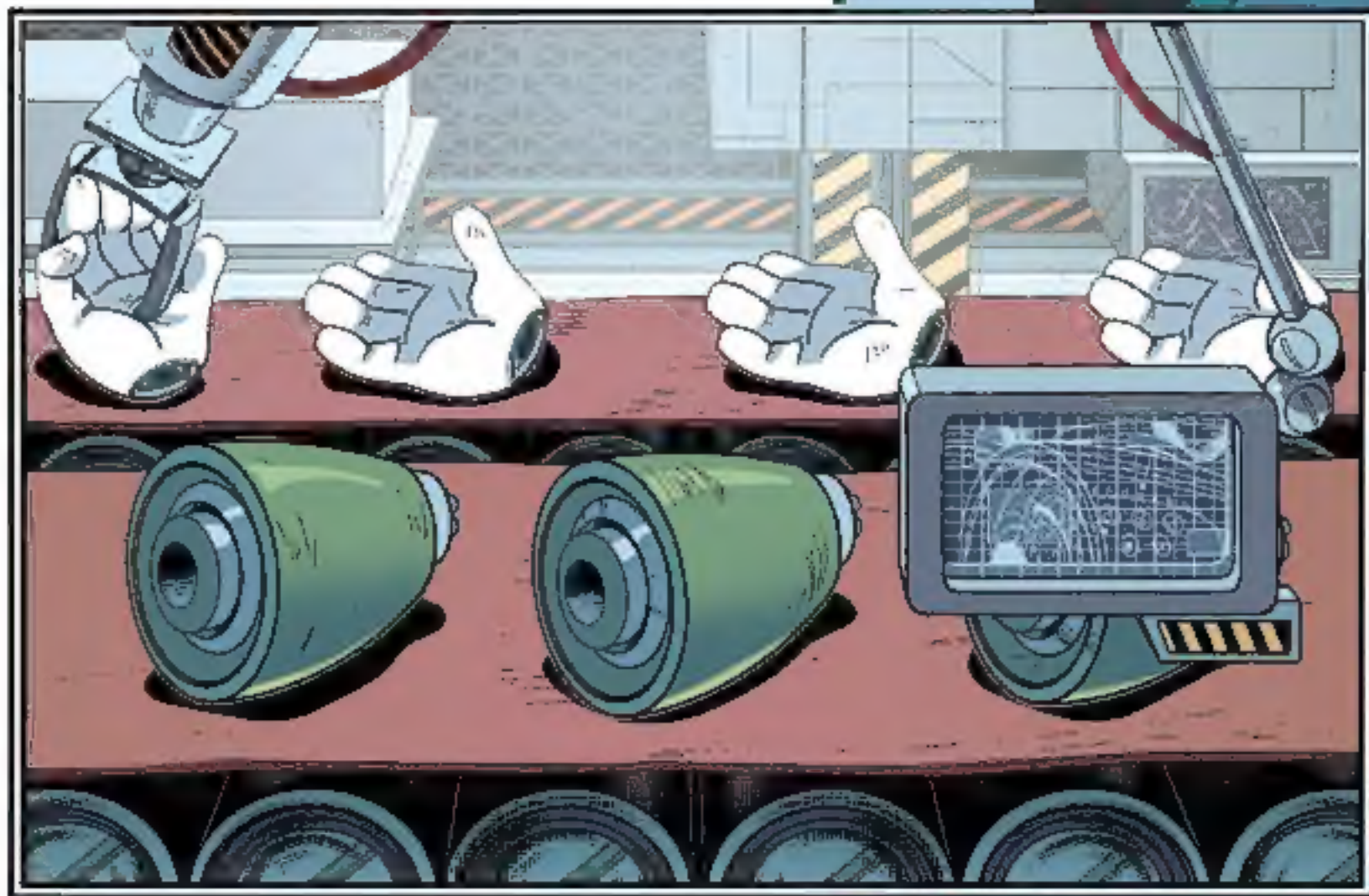


And to think--some said my genius was wasted on archeology --ho-ho!

The reploid's strength and intelligence seem limitless, and he is able to make his own decisions.

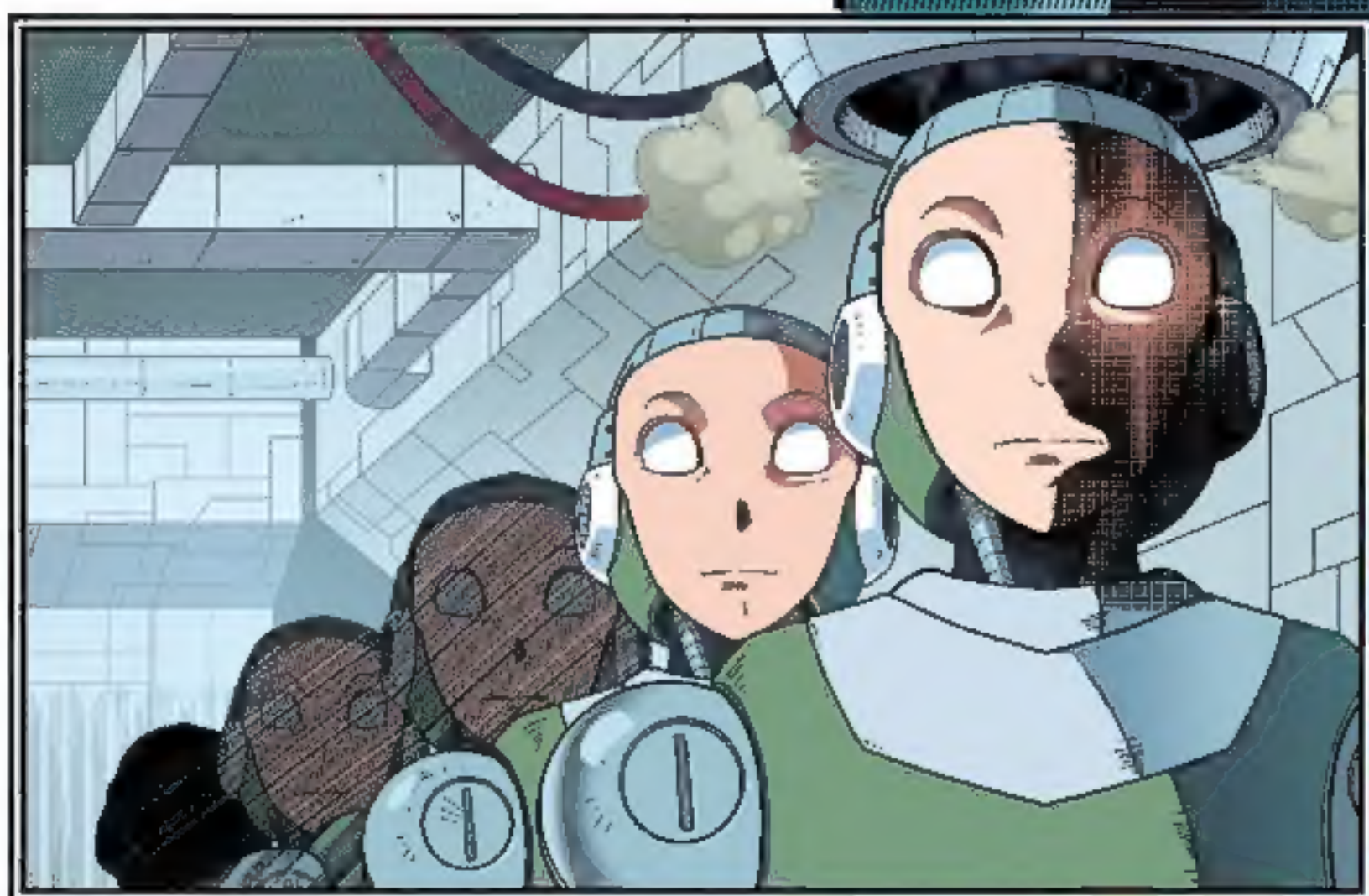
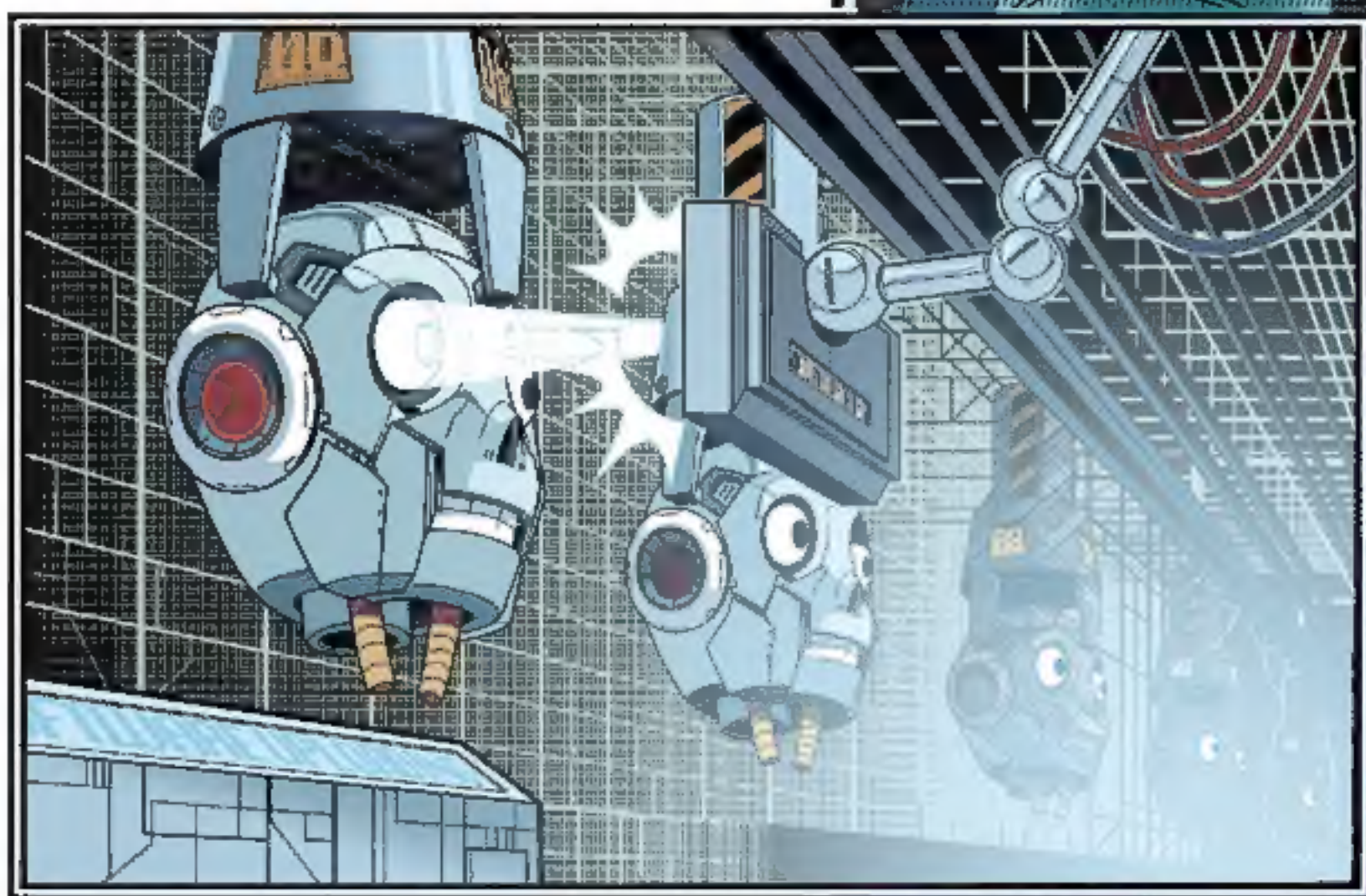


In fact, we got into our first argument. How intriguing!



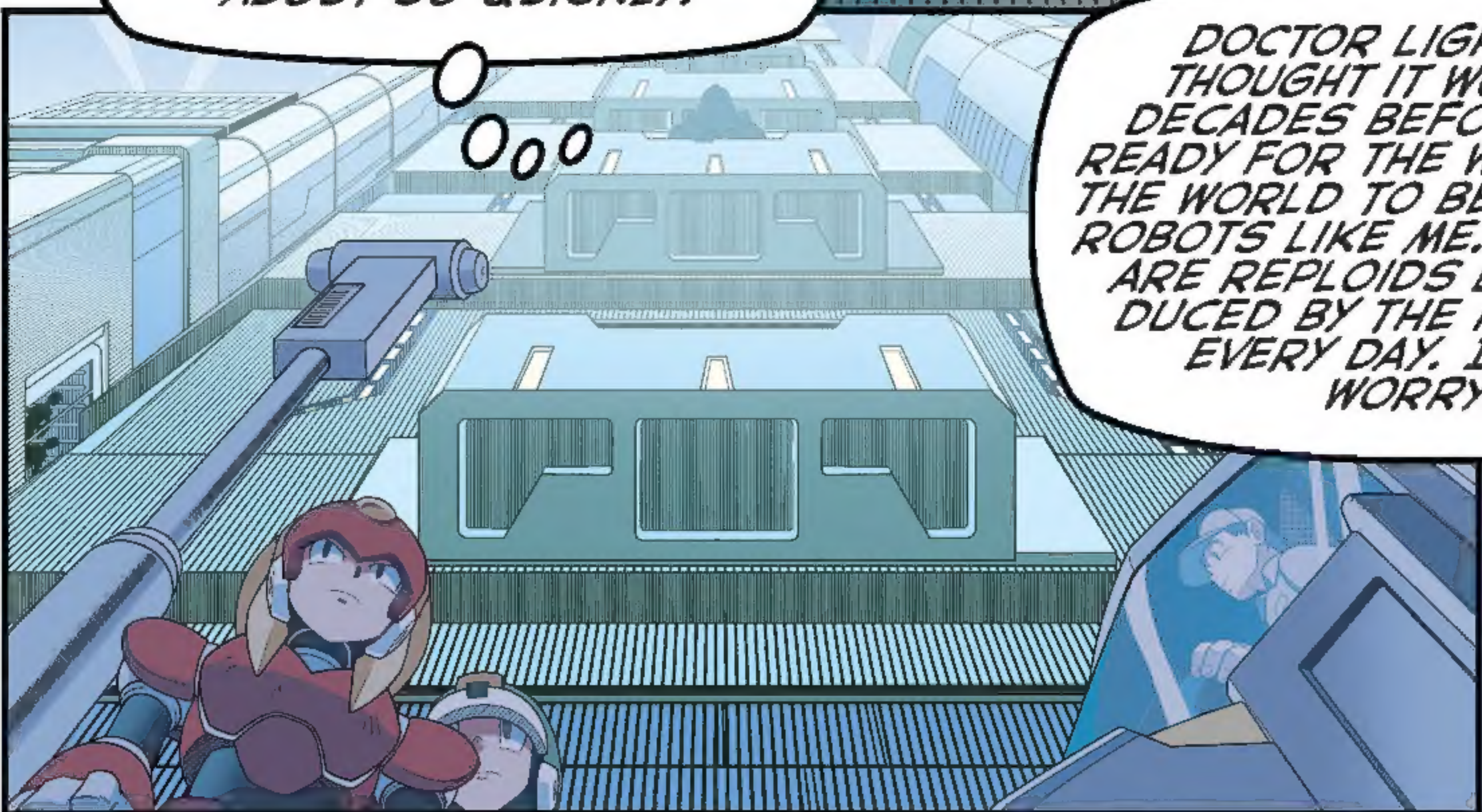
January 3rd.
The new repleids have been running off the assembly line for several weeks. It's amazing how easily they have been able to adapt to even the most difficult jobs.

It still is a bit odd to see them working side-by-side with humans, but everyone seems to be happy to accept them.



Doctor Light's dream has finally been realized, and I could not be prouder to have played my part in it all.

A WORLD WITH ROBOTS AND HUMANS WORKING AND LIVING TOGETHER...IT CAME ABOUT SO QUICKLY.



DOCTOR LIGHT... YOU THOUGHT IT WOULD BE DECADES BEFORE I'D BE READY FOR THE WORLD... FOR THE WORLD TO BE READY FOR ROBOTS LIKE ME. NOW THERE ARE REPLEIDS BEING PRODUCED BY THE HUNDREDS EVERY DAY. I JUST... WORRY...



"...ARE WE MOVING FORWARD TOO FAST?"

NEXT TIME...
THE FUTURE GROWS DARKER!
ENTER--

THE MAVERICK HUNTERS!



MEGA-MAIL

WRITE TO US @: MEGA-MAIL c/o ARCHIE COMIC PUBLICATIONS, INC.
P.O. BOX # 419 MAMARONECK, NY 10543-0419 E-MAIL: MEGAMAN@ARCHIECOMICS.COM

Dear Mega-Mail,
I love the Ra Moon arc! It has been building up to this for some time.

It sure has! Even when you think it's over the ambitions of Ra Moon continue to cause chaos and mayhem in Mega Man's world!

I noticed at the beginning of the arc after the crossover Wily said something about controlled chaos. I was wondering if that was a deliberate reference to chaos control from the crossover. Did anyone else notice that?

Hmmmm... perhaps there was some relation... :)

Thanks for the awesome comics guys! Keep up the good work.

Micah G. from Virginia

P.S. I look forward to Mega Man X!

So long, Micah! Let us know what you thought of the first half of the Mega Man™ X story that debuted in this issue!

Dear Mega-Mail,
I love the storyline, and it just gets better and better. I can't wait to see what Mega Man is gonna do next!

Michael M. sent to

MegaMan@ArchieComics.com

Thanks for the letter, Michael! Mega Man will be visiting all sorts of places in the future, so look forward to it!

Dear Mega-Mail,
I have followed the Mega Man™ comics since I discovered them in my freshman year of high school. Since then, I have waited eagerly for every new issue. I have every issue so far, and I'll always follow the Blue Bomber until the very end!

A loyal reader,

Archive "Kora" Wavelength sent to
MegaMan@ArchieComics.com

PS: Hats off to all the wonderful artists for the beautiful comic pages and variant cover artwork, and to Ian Flynn for his AMAZING skill in writing these awesome story arcs!

Thanks for writing in, "Kora"! We appreciate your long-time support and kind words! We hope the comic brings you joy and excitement for many years to come!

That's all for now! We'll see y'all next time for part two of Shadows of the Moon and the X-Factor!

SEND YOUR
LETTERS TO MEGA-MAIL!
C/O ARCHIE COMIC
PUBLICATIONS, INC
P.O. BOX #419
MAMARONECK, NY
10543-0419
EMAIL: MEGAMAN@
ARCHIECOMICS.COM

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MEGA MAN™ 34 COLLECTOR COVER SPOTLIGHT



VARIANT EDITION BY
BEN BATES

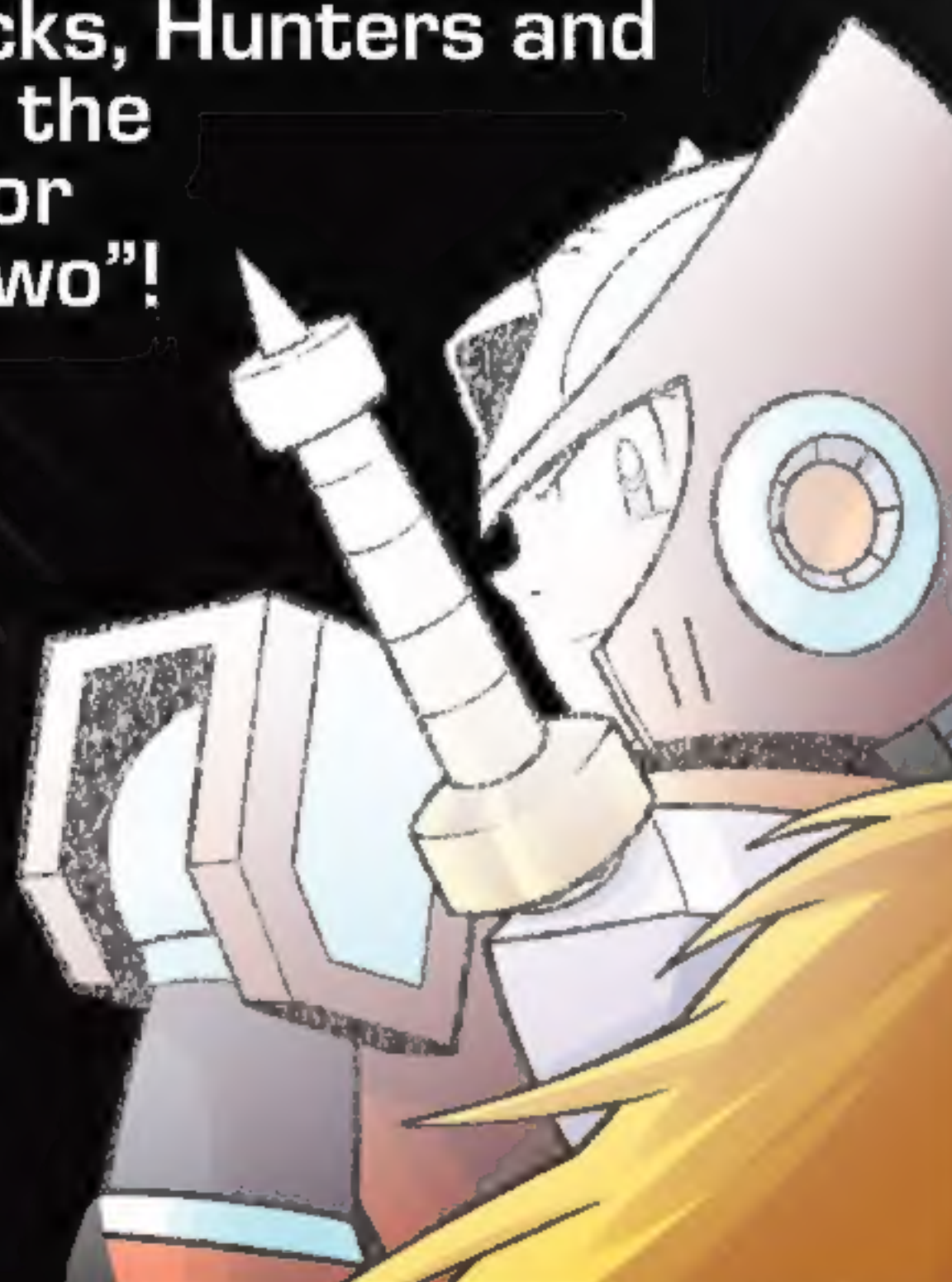
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THE EPIC STORY CONTINUES!

Come on back next month for even more Mega Man™ X action including the Mavericks, Hunters and more in the "X-Factor - Part Two"!



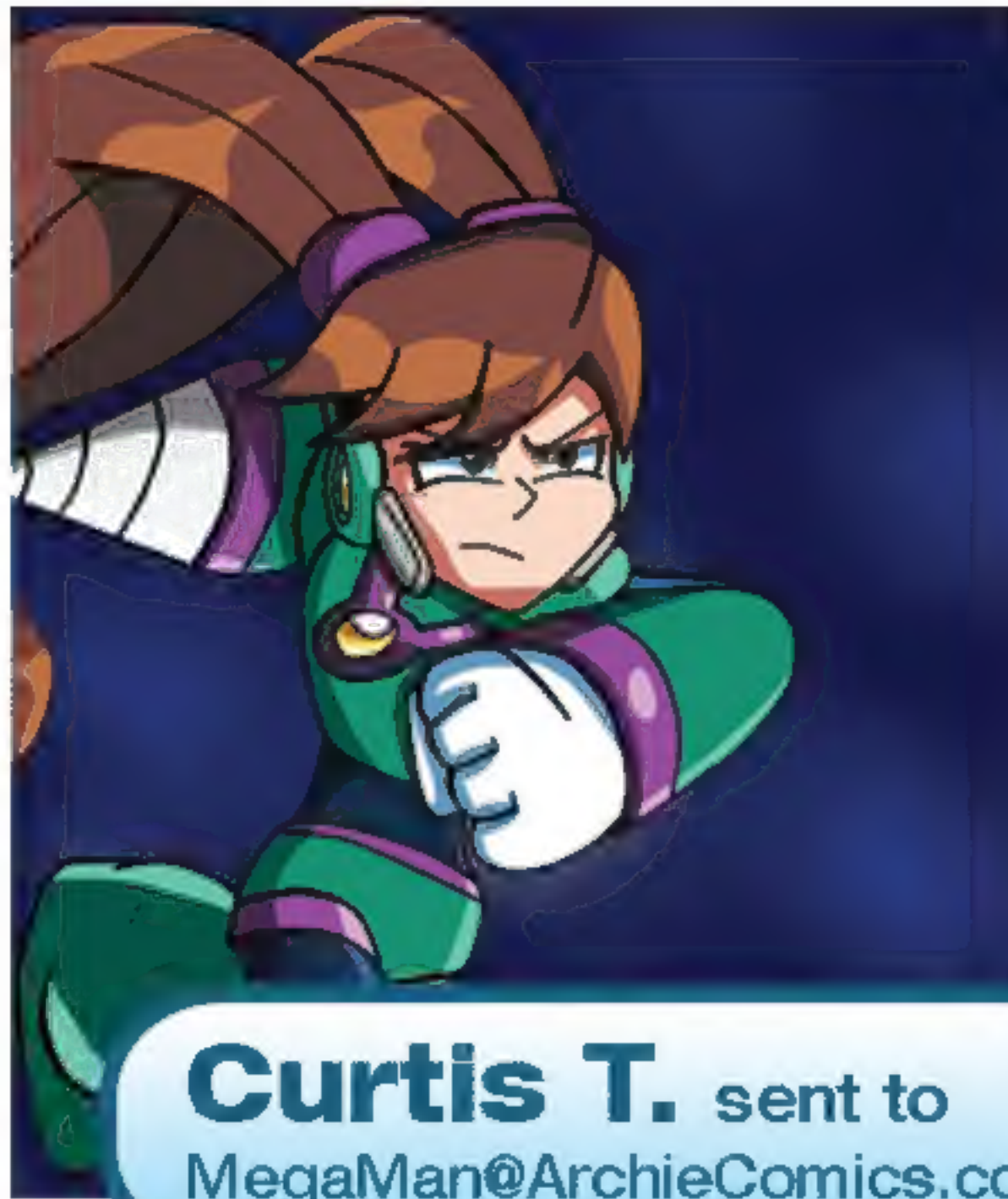
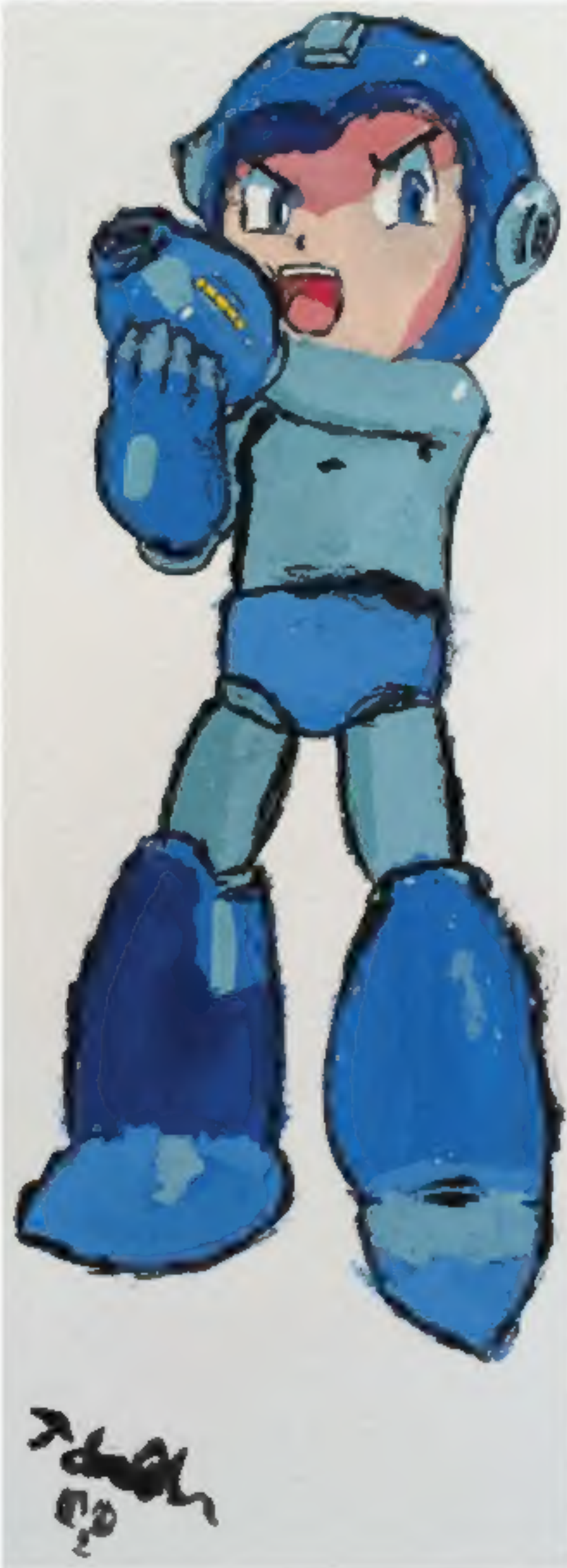
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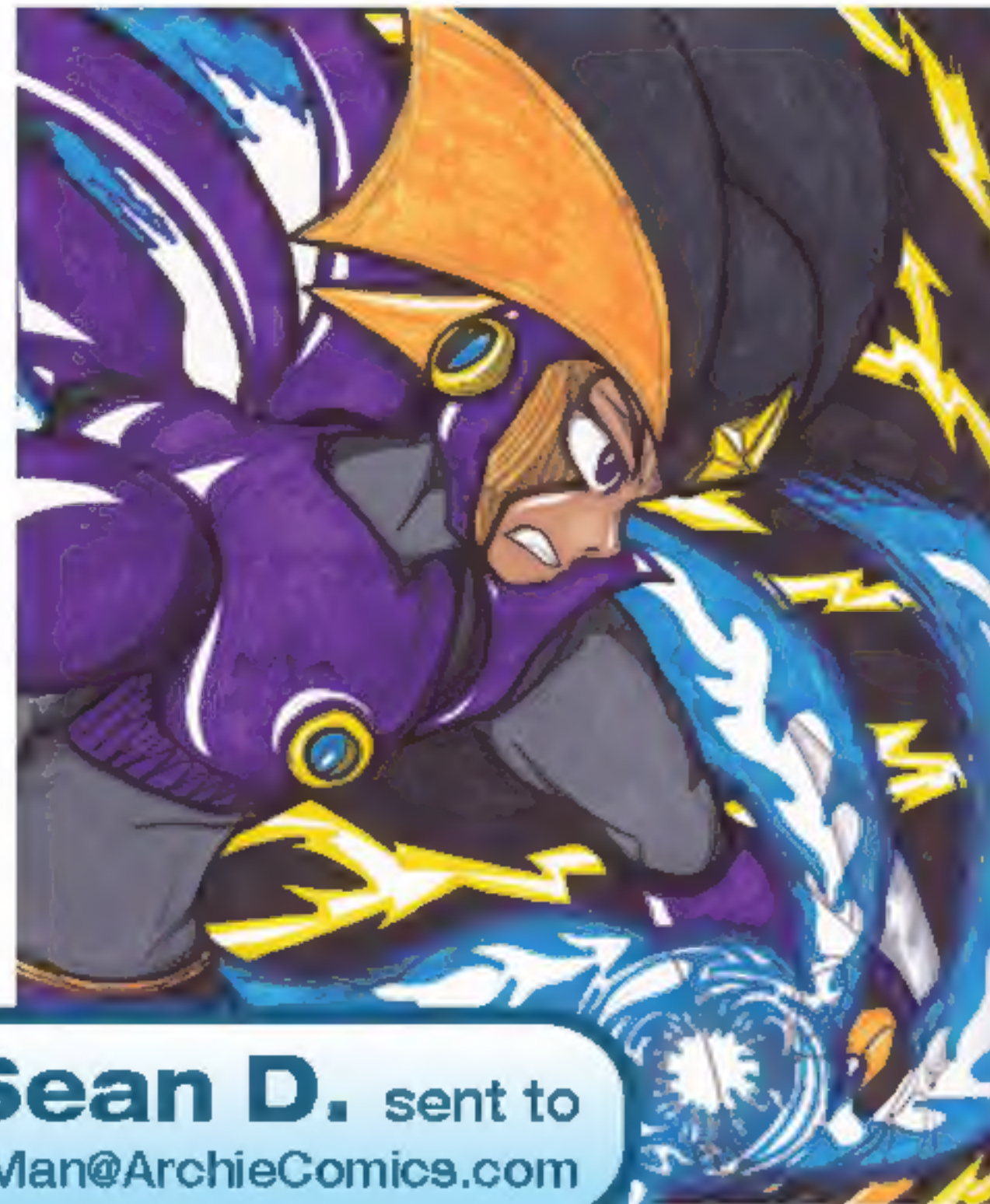
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